BLM Arcata Field Office (AFO) FY 2007 OHV Cooperative Agreement Assistance Grant

<u>Proposed Project Descriptions & Accomplishments</u>

On August 1, 2006 the Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office will submit for consideration to California State Parks, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division, a cooperative agreement assistance grant requesting funds for the following projects to be implemented at Samoa Dunes Recreation Area and Eureka Dunes Riding Area:

Project 01: AFO Enforcement

Total Requested: \$30,475 (Detailed cost information is available on the Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) spreadsheet in a separate document).

Proposed Project Description: This project requests funds to assist BLM Law Enforcement Rangers in enforcing rules and regulations related to off-highway vehicles (OHV) at Samoa Dunes Recreation Area and Eureka Dunes Riding Area. A frequent law enforcement presence is vital in this area because of the high potential that OHV use, if not regulated properly, would conflict with the many other recreation uses occurring at the site. Frequent patrols also deter and prevent unauthorized OHV use in closed areas that contain environmentally sensitive dune habitats. The BLM Rangers would also provide other visitor services related to health and safety, first aid, and communicating interpretive information to those visitors interested in the area's resource values.

Accomplishments in Previous Year: Grant funds totaling approximately \$10,000 and over 300 hour of patrol time were spent on law enforcement activities. Patrol coverage occurred on average five days per week from 2-5 hours each day, depending on numbers and activities of OHV users. BLM Rangers enforced spark arrester specifications, checked registration, and ensured compliance with noise standards. They enforced helmet laws and issued warnings and citations related to all OHV rules and regulations. They contacted approximately 3,000 OHV riders throughout the year, and issued over 50 citations.

Project 02: AFO Facilities Operation & Maintenance (FO&M)

Total Requested: \$22,240 (Detailed cost information is available on the Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) spreadsheet in a separate document).

<u>Proposed Project Description</u>: This project requests funds to operate and maintain a wide variety of OHV related facilities, including a caretaker site, restrooms, OHV staging

area, scenic overlook, drinking water system, 4x4 obstacle course, and picnic areas. Signs, kiosks, and vehicle barriers would be maintained, repaired, and replaced when necessary. Supplies and materials would be purchased to accomplish the aforementioned work.

Accomplishments in Previous Year: Grant funds totaling approximately \$25,000 was spent last year to operate and maintain facilities, including the upkeep of the caretaker site, refurbishing the scenic overlook, keeping the restrooms clean and usable, repairing kiosks and either repairing or replacing signs. Numerous small purchases for tools and cleaning supplies were needed to keep these facilities well maintained.

Project 03: AFO Trail Maintenance

Total Requested: \$11,150 (Detailed cost information is available on the Project Cost and Deliverables (PCD) spreadsheet in a separate document).

<u>Proposed Project Description</u>: This project requests funds to groom, using a small tractor and box scraper, five miles of OHV trails approximately five times per year, and to grade the one mile access road three times per year using a road grader.

<u>Accomplishments in Previous Year</u>: Approximately five miles of OHV trails were groomed four times last year using a tractor and box scraper, and a tracked backhoe. The primary access road was graded several times to prevent pot holes from forming and keep sand from building onto the road. Trail signs were replaced as needed. Post and cable barriers were repaired in several locations.